

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
Yoshiaki TOMOTAKE et al. : Docket No. 2000-1428A
Serial No. [NEW] : Attn: BOX PCT
Filed October 13, 2000 :
INK JET RECORDING PAPER :
[Corresponding to PCT/JP00/01055, :
Filed February 24, 2000] :

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FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of (X) the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or () the additional information identified below in paragraph 4. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No. _____.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:
 - a. () within 3 months of the filing date of the above-identified application, or (X) within 3 months of entry into National stage prosecution of an International application, or () before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and thus:

(X) no certification and/or fee is required.
 - b. () after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, and thus:

() the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided,
or
() a fee of \$240.00 is enclosed.

ATTACHMENT C

(X) reference is made to the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page(s) 2, and/or

() reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:

6. (X) Applicant also offers the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:

1. Prior art references described in the Specification:

Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 11-34481/1999

Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 11-34484/1999

2. Prior art references cited in the International Search Report:

Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 6-200484/1994

Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 8-13358/1996

International Publication WO 99/00541


Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 10-219588/1998

Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 10-245792/1998

7. () Also enclosed is a copy of the European Search Report citing these references.

Respectfully submitted,

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October 13, 2000